



# FNS Policies and Programs to Promote Fruits and Vegetables



FNS National Nutrition Education Conference  
September, 2005





## FNS Facts

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- ❖ Administers USDA's 15 nutrition assistance programs
- ❖ 1 of 5 Americans served by FNS programs over the course of a year
- ❖ Over half of USDA's budget (\$59 billion planned for FY 2006)





# FNS Programs Work Together

FNS Programs provide:

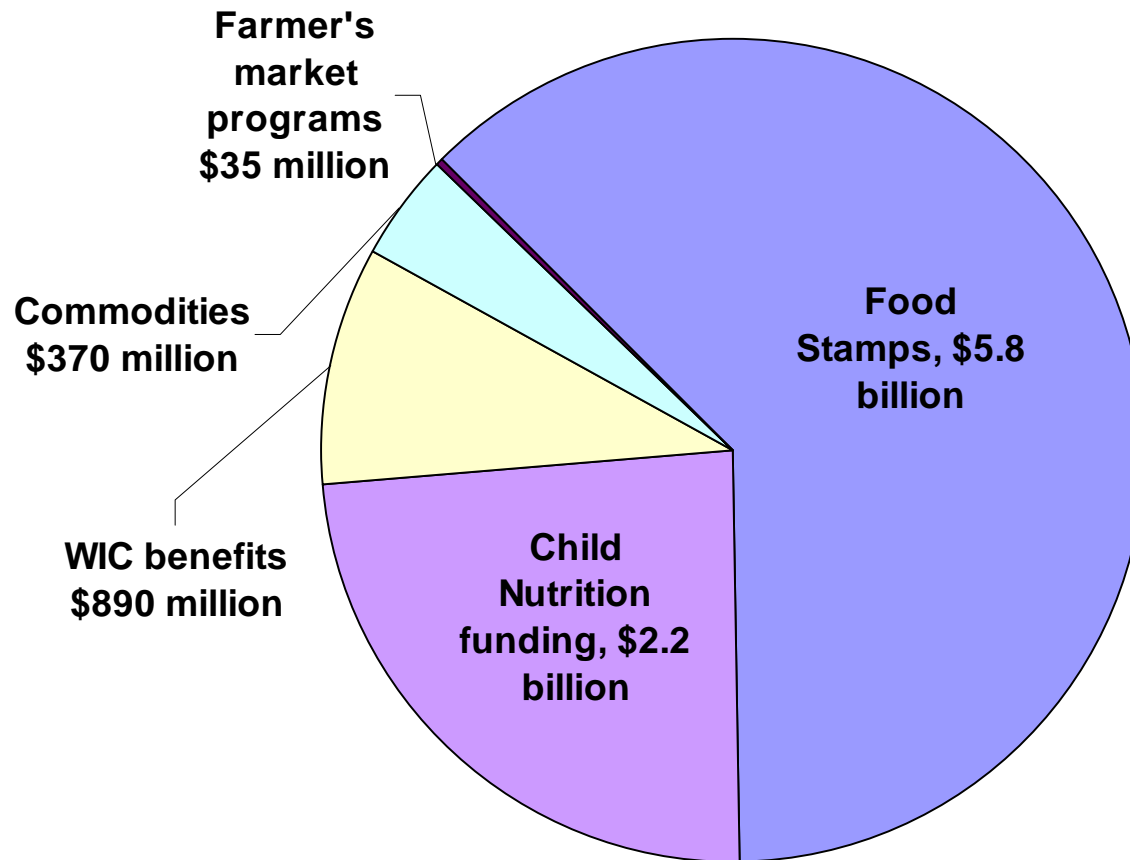
- ❖ Basic Assistance
- ❖ Supplemental Assistance
- ❖ Commodity Assistance





# FNS Spends Over \$9 Billion to Support Fruits and Vegetables

Total Support, FY 2005 (estimate)



# Key Supports for Fruit and Vegetable Consumption

## Food Stamp Program

- ❖ Enables low-income people to buy food at retail stores with electronic benefit cards







# Key Supports for Fruit and Vegetable Consumption

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## Child Nutrition Programs

- ❖ Serve nutritious meals & snacks to children in schools and child care facilities, & in summer activity programs





# Key Supports for Fruit and Vegetable Consumption

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## WIC Program

- ❖ Provides low-income pregnant & postpartum mothers, infants and young children:
  - ❖ Nutritious foods
  - ❖ Nutrition education
  - ❖ Health care referrals



# Key Supports for Fruit and Vegetable Consumption

## Food Distribution Programs

- ❖ Provide commodity foods to Child Nutrition Programs, food banks and soup kitchens; & offer food packages to low-income households







# Key Supports for Fruit and Vegetable Consumption

## Farmers' Market Programs

- ❖ Give coupons to WIC participants and low-income seniors to buy fruits & vegetables at local farmers' markets





# Key Supports for Fruit and Vegetable Consumption

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## Fruit and Vegetable Program

- ❖ 8 States and 3 ITOs,
- ❖ 225 schools
- ❖ Free fresh fruits & vegetables





## Partnership

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- ❖ April 2002 - Memorandum of Understanding
- ❖ Member of Steering Committee
- ❖ Develop and disseminate promising practices



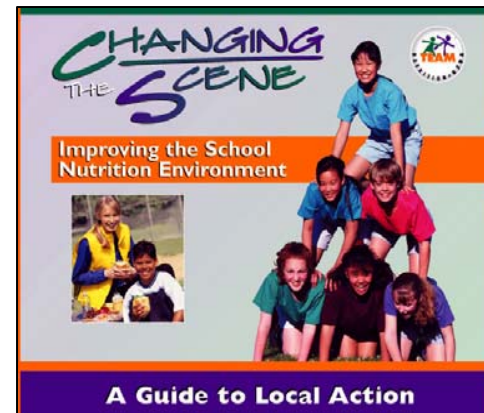
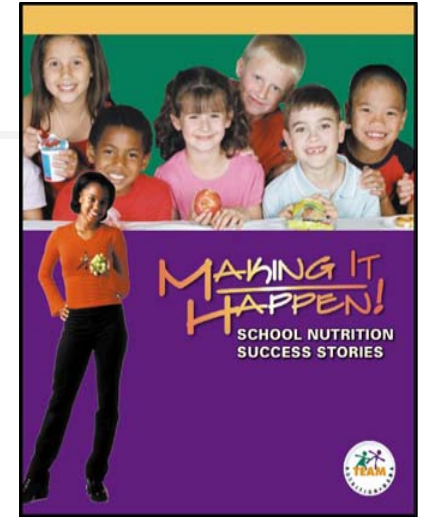
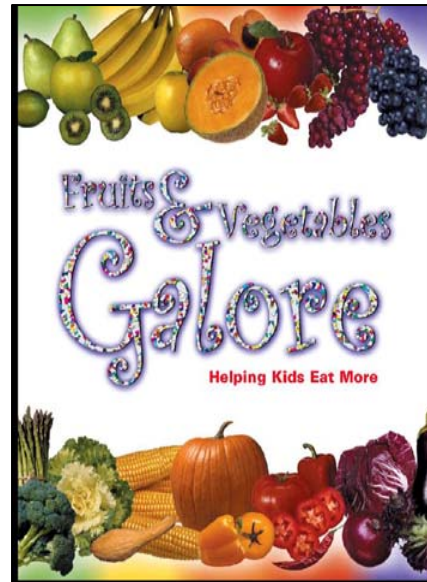
# Increasing Consumption of Fruits and Vegetables in Schools





# Team Nutrition

- ❖ Nutrition education for students and training for school foodservice professionals
- ❖ Initiatives to promote healthier school nutrition environments
- ❖ Focused on voluntary, community-level changes







# *HealthierUS School Challenge*

- ❖ USDA has challenged schools to improve the school environment
- ❖ *HealthierUS School Challenge* awards schools that meet voluntary nutrition standards



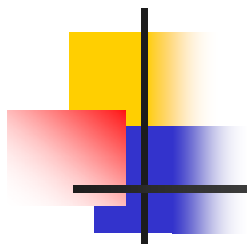
**NEW!**

## Local Wellness Policy Provisions

Local wellness policies must:

- ❖ Include goals for nutrition education, physical activity, nutrition for all foods
- ❖ Involve a broad group of individuals in policy development
- ❖ Include a plan for measuring policy implementation





**THANKS!!**

